

Claim Amendments:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An attachment mechanism device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, comprising:

a first adhering unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to the first object, and a second adhering surface;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface that is adhered to the second adhering surface of the first adhering unit;

a first releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and

a second adhering unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object.

2. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 1, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of styrofoam, wood, plastic, cardboard, spongy material, card stock, and any combination thereof.

3. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, comprising:

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer being either a semi-rigid rigid or a semi-rigid element;

a first ~~releasably attachable unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to the second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second ~~releasably attachable unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first ~~releasably attachable unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener;

an adhesive unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second ~~releasably attachable unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object; and

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

4. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the means for attaching includes at least one of stapling, gluing, sewing, tying and taping the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

5. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the means for attaching comprises:

connecting means for connecting to a portion of the first object to attach the first object to the backer/stabilizer, the connecting means being integrally formed as part of the backer/stabilizer.

6. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 5, wherein the connecting means is one of: a protruding region for coupling to a cavity portion of the first object, and a cavity region for coupling to a protruding portion of the first object.

7. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, cardboard, and card stock.

8. (Currently Amended) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element having first and second ends;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including a first opening and a second opening, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a ~~non-rigid~~ semi-rigid element;

~~a first releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener~~ that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

~~a second releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener~~ that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first ~~releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener~~, the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener having a back side that is attached to the second object; and

~~an adhesive strip that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second releasably attachable unit, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object,~~

wherein the first end of the affixing element is fitted through the first opening of the backer/stabilizer and the second end of the affixing element is fitted through the second opening of the backer/stabilizer, so that a first portion of the affixing element is disposed within the first opening and a second portion of the affixing element is disposed within the second opening, and

~~wherein, after having been respectively fitted through the first and second openings, the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together to provide a coupling of the first object to the backer/stabilizer.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, metal, heavy paperboard, posterboard, rigid paperstock, cardboard, and card stock.

10. (Currently Amended) An attachment device for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

~~a coupling component an affixing element;~~

~~a backer/stabilizer having at least two regions one opening, cut-out or channel for receiving respective ends a portion of the elastic band affixing element;~~

~~a first releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that is adhesively coupled to one surface of the backer/stabilizer,~~

~~wherein a portion of the elastic band affixing element is disposed between the first releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener and the one surface of the backer/stabilizer;~~

~~a second releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a first releasably attachable adhesive surface that is configured to be releasably coupled to the first releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and~~

~~an adhesive material provided on a second, non-releasably attachable surface of the releasably attachable unit second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener,~~

~~wherein the adhesive material is adhered to the second object, and~~

~~wherein the coupling component affixing element is fitted around a portion of the first object holds the first object onto the attachment device.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 10, wherein the at least one opening comprises at least two regions of the backer/stabilizer openings that are one of: a) at least two holes passing from the top surface to the bottom surface of the backer/stabilizer, the at least two holes

formed in a middle portion of the backer/stabilizer, and b) at least two openings cut-outs formed at respective ends of the backer/stabilizer.

12. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim [[9]] 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a channel portion formed on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer, for holding the affixing element in place within the channel.

13. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim [[11]] 10, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, metal, heavy paperboard, posterboard, rigid paperstock, cardboard, and card stock.

14. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A reusable ornament for attachment to an object, comprising:

an ornamental portion; and

a coupling portion for coupling the ornamental portion to the object,

wherein the coupling portion includes:

a ribbon for wrapping around the object, the ribbon including:

~~a first releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener~~ provided adjacent a first end of the ribbon on a first surface of the ribbon;

~~a second releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener~~ provided adjacent a second end of the ribbon on a second surface of the ribbon opposite the first surface; and

means for attaching the ribbon to the ornamental portion,

wherein the first and second ~~releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fasteners~~ are attached to each other when the ribbon is wrapped around the object.

15. – 20. (Canceled).

21. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A method for constructing an attachment device for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

attaching a backer/stabilizer to the first object;

attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a first ~~releasably attachable unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to the backer/stabilizer;

attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a second ~~releasably attachable unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to the second object; and

coupling respective releasably attachable adhesive surfaces of the first and second ~~releasably attachable unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fasteners to each other.

22. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is attached to the first object by one of an adhesive material, glue, staple and sewing thread.

23. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, further comprising:

removing a peel-off protective cover on one surface of the backer/stabilizer prior to attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

24. - 33. (Canceled).

34. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An attachment mechanism device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object and later to a third object, comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer being of either a rigid or semi-rigid construction and providing backing and stability, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out, or channel for receiving the affixing element;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object;

an adhesive unit having first and second adhesive surfaces, such that the adhesive unit adheres to the backer/stabilizer by way of the first adhesive surface, and such that the adhesive unit adheres to the second object by way of the second adhesive surface,

wherein, after the backer/stabilizer has been deattached detached from the second object and prior to reuse of the backer/stabilizer and the first object for attachment to the third object, the adhesive unit is removed from the backer/stabilizer to allow another adhesive unit to be adhered thereto.

35. – 42. (Canceled).

43. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An attachment device for attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer that is provided on a first portion of the attachment device, the backer/stabilizer being of either a rigid or semi-rigid construction and providing backing and stability, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out, or channel for receiving the affixing element;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the second object;

a hanger portion that is provided on a second portion of the attachment device, the hanger portion allowing the attachment device to be hung on a display device; and

perforating means provided on the attachment device to allow a user to separate the first portion from the second portion.

44. (Currently Amended) The attachment mechanism device according to claim 8, wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together in a region between the second surface of the

backer/stabilizer and the back side of the first ~~releasably attachable unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.~~

45. (Currently Amended) The attachment ~~mechanism~~ device according to claim 12, wherein the first and second ends are coupled together and ~~fitted wherein a portion of the affixing element is disposed~~ within the channel ~~portion~~ on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer.

46. (Currently Amended) The attachment ~~mechanism~~ device according to claim 44, wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are disposed against the ~~first~~ second surface of the backer/stabilizer.

47. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) An attachment ~~device~~ formed by an attachment method for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, the method comprising:

affixing a backer/stabilizer to the first object by way of an affixing element that has first and second ends, the backer/stabilizer providing a stable backing for the first object, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening for receiving one of the first and second ends of the affixing element to provide a coupling of the affixing element to the backer/stabilizer when the first and second ends are ~~ties~~ coupled together;

releasably adhering a ~~first releasable adhering adhesive and/or mechanical fastening~~ unit to the backer/stabilizer and to the second object, the ~~first~~ releasable adhering adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit having first and second adhesive attachable surfaces which correspond to top and bottom surfaces of the ~~first releasable adhering adhesive and/or mechanical fastening~~ unit, in which the first adhesive attachable surface is releasably adhered attached to the backer/stabilizer, and in which the second adhesive attachable surface is releasably adhered attached to the second object; and

thereafter, detaching detaching the second object from the second adhesive attachable surface of the first releasable adhering adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit and detaching detaching the backer/stabilizer from the first adhesive attachable surface of the first releasable adhering adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit,

the attachment device comprising:

the affixing element;

the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening for receiving one of the first and second ends of the affixing element; and

the releasable and/or mechanical fastening unit releasably adhered to the backer/stabilizer.

48. (Currently Amended) The attachment mechanism device formed by the method according to claim 47, wherein the ~~first and second~~ releasable adhering adhesive and/or mechanical fastening units each corresponds to a double-sided releasable adhesive strip.

49. (Currently Amended) The attachment mechanism device formed by the method according to claim 48, wherein the ~~first and second~~ releasable adhering adhesive and/or mechanical fastening unit units each includes a non-adhesive tab portion.

50. (Withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is a plastic part, and wherein a portion of the affixing element is integrally formed within the backer/stabilizer.

51. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is formed out of plastic, the method further comprising:

heating the backer/stabilizer while at a same time fitting an affixing element onto the backer/stabilizer, to thereby form a composite structure in

which the backer/stabilizer is rigidly coupled to the affixing element and in which the affixing element is utilized to attach the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

52. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 51, wherein the affixing element is one of: a wire, an elastic band, a string, a plastic tie, and an adjustable ring.

53. (Currently Amended) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element ~~having first and second ends~~;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface facing the first object and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including at least one opening for receiving ~~one of the first and second ends~~ a portion of the affixing element;

~~a releasable attachment unit~~ an adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a first ~~releasably attachable~~ releasable attachment surface and a second ~~releasably attachable~~ releasable attachment surface opposite to the first ~~releasably attachable~~ releasable attachment surface,

wherein the first ~~releasably attachable~~ releasable attachment surface of the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener is releasably attached to the second surface of the backer/stabilizer,

wherein the second ~~releasably attachable~~ releasable attachment surface of the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener is releasably attached to the second object, and

wherein the affixing element affixes the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

54. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 53, wherein the backer/stabilizer has two openings in which ~~the first end~~ a first portion of the affixing element is fitted through one of the two openings and in

which ~~the second end~~ and a second portion of the affixing element is fitted through the other of the two openings, and

wherein the ~~first and second ends of the~~ affixing element ~~are tied together to form~~ forms a closed-loop affixing element, and

wherein ~~the first and second ends~~ a portion of the affixing ~~elements~~ element is disposed between and thereby sandwiched between the backer/stabilizer and the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.

55. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An attachment device for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

~~a releasable attachment unit~~ an adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a first surface, ~~for releasable attachment to a backer/stabilizer~~ and a second surface for releasable attachment to the second object, the first surface and the second surface being on opposite sides of the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener;

~~the a~~ backer/stabilizer releasably attached to the first surface of the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out or channel, the backer/stabilizer providing backing and stability for the first object when the backer/stabilizer is affixed to the first object; and

an affixing element that affixes the first object to the backer/stabilizer, the affixing element being coupled to the backer/stabilizer by way of the at least one opening, cut-out or channel of the backer/stabilizer

~~wherein the first surface of the releasable attachment unit is releasably attached to the backer/stabilizer.~~

56. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the affixing element is integrally formed as a part of the backer/stabilizer.

57. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 56, wherein the affixing element is of a same material composition as the backer/stabilizer.

58. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 56, wherein the affixing element corresponds to a cylinder having an opening, the cylinder being spike or nub disposed in a substantially middle portion on a top surface of the backer/stabilizer,

wherein the first object includes a post hollow base, and

wherein a bottom portion of the post hollow base of the first object is fitted within onto the opening of the cylinder spike or nub, to thereby affix the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

59. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 56, wherein the affixing element corresponds to a post cup-shaped element disposed at a substantially middle portion on a top surface of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first object includes a cylinder having an opening therein stub end, and

wherein the cylinder stub end of the first object is fitted onto the post of the affixing element cup-shaped element, to thereby affix the first object to the backer/stabilizer.

60. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the releasable attachment unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener further comprises:

a first non-adhesive tab portion that abuts the first surface of the releasable attachment unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and

a second non-adhesive tab portion that abuts the second surface of the releasable attachment unit adhesive and/or mechanical fastener,

wherein the first and second non-adhesive tab portions allow a user to ~~deattach~~ ~~detach~~ the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener from the second object by pulling on the first and second non-adhesive tab portions.

61. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a first opening and a second opening that pass entirely through the backer/stabilizer,

~~wherein the affixing element is separate from the backer/stabilizer and corresponds to a connecting element having~~ has a first end and a second end, and

wherein the first and second ends of the ~~connecting~~ affixing element are fitted through the first and second openings of the backer/stabilizer, respectively, such that first and second portions of the ~~connecting~~ affixing element are respectively disposed within the first and second openings of the backer/stabilizer.

62. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the first object corresponds to an ornamental ribbon or bow.

63. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the second object corresponds to gift wrap.

64. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a first slot cut-out provided on a first side of the backer/stabilizer and a second slot cut-out provided on a second side of the backer/stabilizer opposite the first side,

~~wherein the affixing element is separate from the backer/stabilizer and corresponds to a connecting element having a first end and a second end, and~~

wherein ~~the first and second ends~~ a first portion and a second portion of the connecting affixing element are respectively disposed within the first and second ~~sets~~ cut-outs of the backer/stabilizer, ~~respectively~~, so as to couple the affixing element to the backer/stabilizer.

65. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, further comprising:

a peel-off protective cover that covers the second surface of the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener,

wherein the peel-off protective cover is removed to expose an adhesive surface of the ~~releasable attachment unit~~ adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.

66. (Currently Amended) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein ~~the affixing element is separate from the backer/stabilizer and corresponds to a connecting element having a first end and a second end~~,

wherein the backer/stabilizer includes a channel ~~portion~~ formed on a surface facing the releasable attachment unit, and

wherein ~~the first and second ends~~ a portion of the connecting affixing element ~~are is~~ held in place within the channel ~~portion~~ of the backer/stabilizer when the backer/stabilizer is coupled to the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener.

67. (New) The attachment device according to claim 12, wherein the channel formed on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer extends from a first edge to a second edge of the backer/stabilizer.

68. (New) The attachment device according to claim 64, wherein the first and second cut-outs each comprises:

a linear portion that extends inwards from an edge of the backer/stabilizer; and

a circular portion that abuts an inward end of the linear portion,

wherein portions of the affixing element are disposed within the circular portions of the first and second cut-outs.

69. (New) The attachment device according to claim 68, wherein the circular portion is wider than the linear portion for each of the first and second cut-outs.

70. (New) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element having first and second ends;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including a first opening and a second opening, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a non-rigid element;

a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and

an adhesive for adhering a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to a surface of the second object,

wherein the first end of the affixing element is fitted through the first opening of the backer/stabilizer and back up through the second opening of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein, after the first end of the affixing element has been fitted through the first and second openings, the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together to enable a coupling of the first object to the backer/stabilizer and thereby to the second object.

71. (New) The attachment device according to claim 70, further comprising:

a protective covering that covers the adhesive, wherein the protective covering is removed from the adhesive to allow the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to be adhesively attached to the second object.

72. (New) The attachment device according to claim 70, wherein the second surface of the backer/stabilizer comprises a channel that is depressed with respect to a remaining portion of the second surface, and

wherein the affixing element is fitted within the channel of the backer/stabilizer.

73. (New) An attachment device for a first object to be attached to a second object, the attachment device comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer including at least one opening, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a semi-rigid element; and

an adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that attaches the backer/stabilizer to a surface of the second object,

wherein the affixing element is fitted through the at least one opening of the backer/stabilizer to couple the affixing element to the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first object is coupled to the affixing element to thereby attach the first object to the backer/stabilizer and thereby to the second object.

74. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the backer/stabilizer comprises at least one of an opening, a cut-out, or a channel, and

wherein the affixing element is fitted within the opening, cut-out or channel.

75. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element is selected from the group consisting of: covered wire, wire, nylon, plastic, ribbon, zip lock tie, plastic tie, ribbon, clamp, adjustable ring, string, thread, braid, spike, staple, barrette, pin, hair pin, elastic band, thread, twist tie, wire tie, plastic locking device, zip tie, interlocking pieces, or combinations thereof.

76. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element comprises a first end and a second end, and

wherein a first portion of the affixing element is disposed within a first opening of the backer/stabilizer, a second portion of the affixing element is disposed within a second opening of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together.

77. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element comprises a first end and a second end, and

wherein the first end of the affixing element is fitted through a first opening of the backer/stabilizer and then through a second opening of the backer/stabilizer, and

wherein the first and second ends of the affixing element are coupled together.

78. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, further comprising:

a protective covering that covers one surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, wherein the protective covering is removed from the one surface of the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to allow the adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to be adhesively attached to the second object.

79. (New) The attachment device according to claim 8, further comprising:

a protective covering that covers the adhesive strip, wherein the protective covering is removed from the adhesive strip to allow the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to be adhesively attached to the second object.

80. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the adhesive and or mechanical fastener further comprises at least one of: adhesive, pressure sensitive adhesive, removable adhesive, reusable adhesive, sticky backing, double stick tape, double sided adhesive tape, double sided removable adhesive tape, double sided removable adhesive tape with non-adhesive tab portion, double sided reusable adhesive tape, double sided reusable adhesive tape non-adhesive tab portion, interlocking fastener, hook-and-loop fastener, and magnet.

81. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein said backer/stabilizer includes a hanger portion that facilitates hanging the first object on a display rack, the hanger portion being attached to a remaining portion of the backer/stabilizer by way of a perforated line that allows a user to detach the hanger portion from the remaining portion of the backer/stabilizer.

82. (New) The attachment device according to claim 73, wherein the affixing element is part of the first object.

83. (New) The attachment device according to claim 8, further comprising:

an adhering element that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object.

84. (New) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer is an integral component made of a same material.

85. (New) The attachment device according to claim 8, wherein the backer/stabilizer has a flat shape.

86. (New) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer is an integral component made of a same material.

87. (New) The attachment device according to claim 55, wherein the backer/stabilizer has a flat shape.

88. (New) The attachment device according to claim 12, wherein the channel forms a groove on the second surface of the backer/stabilizer.